



FOUNDATION FOR FAIR CONTRACTING
OF CONNECTICUT, INC.

78 Beaver Rd., Ste 2D
Wethersfield, CT 06109
www.ffcct.org

Labor and Public Employees Committee
Public Hearing

March 9, 2023

Re: HB 6862 - *An Act Concerning Broadband Construction and the Prevailing Wage*

Chairwoman Kushner, Chairman Sanchez, Ranking Member Sampson, Ranking Member Ackert and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee,

The Foundation for Fair Contracting of Connecticut (FFC) is a non-profit organization which monitors public works construction projects covered under the State of Connecticut's Prevailing Wage Law and the Davis-Bacon Act. We accomplish this by reviewing public documents prepared and/or submitted by owners and contractors. We focus on proper payment of prevailing wage rates, proper classification of workers, licensing, and properly administered state apprenticeship standards.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in **support** of HB 6862, "*An Act Concerning Broadband Construction and the Prevailing Wage*".

With the bipartisan passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Connecticut is poised to receive approximately \$95 million in funding for broadband. When this work is performed by low-road subcontractors, which often come from out of state and rush through jobs, both worker safety and job quality can be compromised.

Public dollars should fund high-quality, sustainable networks constructed by a well-trained workforce. Prevailing wages ensure that broadband providers uphold high standards in the construction of the communications networks that our residents rely on. This is about creating a strong economy where dollars are recycled back into our local communities, while ensuring that a highly skilled local workforce is earning family-sustaining wages and benefits.

We urge this committee to support HB 6862 and for a Joint Favorable vote.

In the meantime, should you have any questions or concerns, or if there is any additional information I can provide, please feel free to contact me by email to kglassman@ffcct.org or by phone at 860-667-7727.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K. Glassman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kimberly Glassman
Director